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# ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

## **SANITARY CONDITION**

OF THE

*Borough of Bury St. Edmund's,*

**FOR THE YEAR 1905,**

BY

**ERNEST STORK,**

BACHELOR OF MEDICINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON,

FELLOW OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH,


AND

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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BURY ST. EDMUND'S :

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## Borough of Bury St. Edmund's.

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### SANITARY COMMITTEE.

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Mayor ... .. MR. ALDERMAN BULLEN, J.P.

Chairman ... .. MR. COUNCILLOR STAFF.

Vice-Chairman ... .. LIEUT.-COL. ANDERSON.

#### Members :

MR. COUNCILLOR CLARK.

MR. COUNCILLOR HUNTER.

MR. COUNCILLOR GODDARD.

MR. COUNCILLOR PETTIT.

MR. COUNCILLOR GREENE.

MR. COUNCILLOR STREET.

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### SANITARY HOSPITAL.

Matron ... .. MRS. DORMER.

Sanitary Inspector ... .. R. KERRAGE.



# MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT, 1905.

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TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND COUNCILLORS OF  
THE BOROUGH OF BURY ST. EDMUND'S.

GENTLEMEN,

By a General Order of the Local Government Board, dated 23rd March, 1891, it is prescribed that every Medical Officer of Health shall :—

*“ Make an Annual Report to the Sanitary Authority up to  
“ the end of December in each year, comprising a Summary of the  
“ action taken, or which he has advised the Sanitary Authority  
“ to take, during the year for preventing the spread of disease,  
“ and an account of the Sanitary state of his district generally at  
“ the end of the year.*

*“ The Report shall also contain an account of the enquiries  
“ which he has made as to the conditions injurious to health  
“ existing in the district, and of the proceedings in which he has  
“ taken part, or advised under any statute, as far as such pro-  
“ ceedings relate to these conditions.*

*“ Also an account of the supervision exercised by him, or on  
“ his advice, for Sanitary purposes over places and houses that  
“ the Sanitary Authority have power to regulate, with the nature  
“ and results of any proceedings which may have been so required  
“ and taken in respect of the same during the year.*

*“ The Report shall also record the action taken by him, or on  
“ his advice, during the year in regard to offensive trades, to  
“ dairies, cow sheds, and milk shops, and to factories and work-  
“ shops.*

*“ The Report shall also contain tabular statements of the  
“ sickness and mortality within the district, classified according  
“ to diseases and localities.”*

This report is made in fulfilment of the above regulations.



## METEOROLOGICAL NOTES, 1905.

BY THE REV. G. HALES, M.A.

(From observations taken at 6, Westgate Street).

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*Barometer* (reduced to Sea level and 32 deg. Fah.) from 10 a.m. readings : } Highest 31.10 in. (January 29th and 30th).  
Lowest 29.30 in. (November 13th).  
Mean 29.98 in.

*Temperature*—Maximum 87 degrees (July 15th and 26th).  
Minimum 19 „ (January 2nd).

\**Rainfall*—Total fall 21.57 in.

Below average by 3.43 in.

Greatest fall in one day (June 6th) .88 in.

Number of days on which rain or snow fell 190.

„ „ „ snow „ 4.

*Wind*—Prevailing directions. W. and S.W.

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## GEOLOGICAL NOTE.

The Geological construction of the soil underlying the Borough is simple. The subsoil, which consists of chalk of considerable thickness, comes to the surface in few places, but may be reached at no great depth in the greater part of the Municipal area. The higher levels are made up of beds of gravel and brick-earth of varying depths. The soil generally is fairly porous in character. The general trend of the drainage of the inhabited area is toward the River Lark.

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\* The following table gives the Rainfall for each month in the year :—

January	1.40 in.	May	.83 in.	September	1.55 in.
February	1.43 „	June	3.33 „	October	2. „
March	2.37 „	July	1.55 „	November	1.83 „
April	1.98 „	August	2.34 „	December	.96 „

# DEMOGRAPHICAL STATISTICS.

<i>Enumerated Population at the Census of 1901</i>	16255
Estimated Population in the middle of 1905 ...	16610
Area in Statute Acres ... ..	2934
Density of Population ( <i>i.e.</i> , No. of persons per acre)	5.67
Rateable value £65,551 3s. 3d.	

<i>Total Number of Births registered in 1905</i>	417
Representing a Birth-rate of ... 25.04 per 1000	
Birth-rate for 1904 ... 23.36 „	
Average Birth-rate for the previous ten	
years (1895-1904) ... .. 24.46 „	

<i>Total number of Deaths registered in 1905</i>	270
Representing a gross recorded Death-rate of 16.77 per 1000	
Or omitting deaths of non-residents (42) 13.72 „	
The corresponding rates for 1904 were	
15.59 and 13.71 „	
Average Death-rate for the previous ten	
years (1895-1904) ... .. 15.50 „	

<i>Deaths from Zymotic Diseases</i>	6
Representing a Zymotic Death-rate of ... .36 per 1000	

## GENERAL SANITARY CONDITION OF THE BOROUGH.

House  
Accommo-  
dation  
for the  
Working  
Classes.

This remains inadequate, and it must be confessed in many instances, unsuitable. Much has been done during the year to improve the Sanitary conditions of this class of dwelling, and there has been a considerable gain. There is, generally speaking, a sufficiency of open space about the houses. Special attention has been devoted to the cleanliness of the surroundings, and the result has been satisfactory. The Town Council exercises strict control over the erection of new houses.

Sewerage  
and  
Drainage.

During the year there has been completed the construction of a new main sewer with a free outfall to the Sewerage Farm, about  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles away. The work should serve, by hastening the delivery of the Sewage before it has had time to septicize, to perfect the system. Owing to the small outfall this has previously, especially in hot and dry weather, been a subject of some difficulty. The main drainage of the town has been extended to several houses, thus reducing the number of the few remaining cess-pools. The number of house drains, cess-pools, &c., cleaned and ventilated was 43, there were 8 new W.C.'s provided, and 6 W.C.'s were provided with water.

Removal  
and  
Disposal  
of  
House  
Refuse.

House refuse is collected daily in the central and business portions of the Borough, and twice a week over the remainder of the Municipal Area. The work is undertaken by the Town Council. Specially constructed Refuse Carts of a convenient pattern are employed, and the refuse is conveyed outside the Town, to be deposited on refuse tips provided in suitable positions. These tips are carefully enclosed, and most scrupulously kept. The question of constructing a Refuse Destructor to replace this system will shortly be considered by the Town Council. It is



sincerely to be hoped that the coming year may see the establishment of this very desirable improvement, especially as there is little doubt of its proving a distinct economy.

#### Water Supply.

The Town is supplied with water from the Corporation Waterworks, the source being a well 100 feet deep in the Chalk. The water is pumped by an electric motor, which is supplemented by a wind engine. The supply during the year has been abundant, and whenever subjected to analysis the quality has been found to be of exceptional purity. The methods of storage and distribution render the supply as free from risk of pollution as it is possible to make it.

At the commencement of the year there were close upon 150 wells in use for domestic purposes. The systematic analysis, which was begun in 1904, of the water from these, has been steadily continued, with a view to closing as many as might be found unsatisfactory. As a consequence of this 11 wells have been condemned and closed, the Town water being substituted for the 25 dwellings hitherto supplied from polluted sources. All these wells were shallow, and lay very close to the river, in a closely populated, water-logged and comparatively sunless area, and were a serious menace to the public health. It is hoped that the finances of the Borough may enable this very urgent work to be continued at a more rapid rate than has hitherto been possible.

#### Supervision.

*Lodging Houses.*—Only two lodging houses registered under Clause 76 of the Public Health Act of 1875 exist in the Borough. These have been under close supervision, and found to be invariably well-kept.

The *Slaughter Houses*, 16 in number, have been regularly and systematically inspected. The prompt removal of

offal is insisted upon throughout the Borough. Special attention is devoted to flushing and drainage; and the general condition of all the premises under consideration is now most satisfactory.

*Dairies, Cow Sheds and Milk Shops* have been regularly and systematically inspected, and found satisfactory.

*Offensive Trades.*—It is a pleasure to be able to report that there are now no premises licensed for the carrying on of offensive Trades.

**Nuisances.** The number of Complaints received during the year was 49. These were dealt with as follows:—Inspections were made in every case; 32 were dealt with by letter; in 15 Preliminary Notices were served; and in 2 it was necessary to serve a Statutory Notice. The result in every case was to remove the cause of the complaint. The number and results of the independent inspections made will be found in the Summary supplied by the Sanitary Inspector. (p. 22).

**Infectious Diseases.** The *Notification Act* is in force in the Borough. Forty-three cases were notified during the year, being 31 less than last year. The largest number relates to cases of Diphtheria, of which there were 15. This disease has at no time assumed anything like an epidemic character during the past three years; a fact which I attribute to the prompt and liberal use of antitoxin for all contacts. Thus in 1905 there has been no single instance in which the infection has spread beyond the first case reported. To the use of antitoxin, likewise, I attribute the satisfactory fact that there were no deaths due to Diphtheria. Fifteen cases of Erysipelas were notified. I consider that the notification of this disease as a general custom is

practically valueless, and would welcome its abolition in favour of notification in cases of Tubercular disease. There were only six cases of Scarlet Fever, all of which recovered. Five cases of Enteric Fever were notified, with one death. In four cases it was not found possible to trace the source of infection; in the fifth case the patient had been staying at Basingstoke immediately before the outbreak which occurred in that town.

Notifications were received in respect of two cases of Puerperal Fever. No cases of Small-Pox were notified.

It will be seen that, if the 15 cases of Erysipelas be excluded, these being of an insignificant character, the Borough has enjoyed a very remarkable immunity from notifiable infectious disease; in this particular 1905 ranks as the healthiest year of which I possess records.

The early months of the year witnessed a very widespread outbreak of Measles. Fortunately the cases, of which there were estimated to be upwards of 200, were not generally of a severe character. The only practical difficulty experienced in dealing with the outbreak was in regard to the question of School Attendance. All children in infected households were rigorously excluded from School, and as a very small proportion of children, especially of those under five years of age, escaped, the regulation interfered seriously in some cases with the School Attendance. It is necessary, perhaps, to point out that School closure in crowded Urban districts tends rather to encourage the spread of the epidemic, seeing that the children mix indiscriminately in the Courts and Alleys when at play; for this reason the separation of the infected from the healthy which is afforded by exclusion is of undoubted value in dealing with such an outbreak. Unfortunately, under the present system of School Grants



on an "Attendance" basis, such exclusion acts hardly on the School Authorities, and Sanitary Officers are hampered in their work by the difficulties which this attendance question creates.

There are two *Isolation Hospitals*, one with accommodation for 35 patients, and used for Scarlet Fever, Typhoid Fever, and Diphtheria ; the other with accommodation for 20 patients is reserved entirely for cases of Small-Pox.

*Disinfection* is carried out by means of Formaline lamps in all dwellings ; and by a " Washington Lyons " Disinfector at the Sanitary Hospital for the treatment of clothing, bedding, &c.

**Food and  
Drugs  
Act.**

Under this Act 25 samples were taken during the year. The list of samples is as follows :—

Milk ... ..	12	Olive Oil ... ..	1
Camphorated Oil	1	Butter ... ..	7
Pepper ... ..	1	Lime Juice ... ..	1
Malt Vinegar	2		

**Legal  
Proceed-  
ings.**

One sample of milk was found upon analysis to contain 72% of genuine milk of the poorest quality, and 28% of milk entirely devoid of fat. The sample contained only 2.16% of milk fat. As no change had taken place in the sample to interfere with the analysis, the vendor was prosecuted, convicted, and fined.

All the other samples were found to be genuine. Owing to the large number of samples of water which have been analysed under the scheme of securing the closing of polluted wells, I have been unable to recommend the analysis of a larger number of samples under the Food and Drugs Acts. I would, however, point to the fact that of the 25 samples taken, only one proved unsatisfactory, good evidence that adulteration is little to be feared.

## FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

(1.) There are two *Factories* in which 40 or more persons are employed. They have been systematically inspected in respect of cleanliness, ventilation, sanitary conveniences, and means of escape in case of fire, and found to be satisfactory.

Five Workshops, and three Factory Laundries registered under the Act have been regularly visited, and kept under supervision.

There are also 25 Workplaces which have been systematically inspected during the year. A proposal to compel the occupiers of these to furnish flushing cisterns to the W.C.'s was discussed and negatived. In the majority of them water is carried to the closets by hand, and although I am authorised to order the adoption of a cistern in any case where there is noticeable neglect in this respect, it is impossible to feel confident that the closet-pans are always kept properly flushed.

(2). *Bake Houses* to the number of 37, including one specially licensed "underground Bake house," have been regularly inspected, and kept in thoroughly satisfactory condition.

(3). The premises where *Home Work* is carried out have been kept under supervision.

(4). There are 120 *Out-Workers* on the list kept by the Sanitary Inspector, and these have been systematically visited by him, and kept under observation as regards cleanliness, and in freedom from infectious disease.

(5). The *Register of Workshops* is now complete. The Table giving particulars in respect of the Act will be found below :—



## 1.—INSPECTION

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

PREMISES.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories ... .. (Including Factory Laundries)	14	Nil	Nil
Workshops ... .. (Including Workshop Laundries)	6	"	"
Workplaces ... ..	50	"	"
Homeworkers' Premises ... ..	120	"	"
	190	"	"

## 2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS.	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness ... ..	Nil	—	—	—
Want of ventilation .. ...	I	I	—	—
Overcrowding ... ..	Nil	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	„	—	—	—
Other nuisances ... ..	„	—	—	—
†Sanitary accom- { insufficient ... ..	„	—	—	—
modation { unsuitable or defective ... ..	I	I	—	—
{ not separate for sexes ... ..	Nil	—	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101) ... ..	Nil	—	—	—
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100) ... ..	„	—	—	—
Failure as regards lists of outworkers (s. 107) ... ..	„	—	—	—
Giving out work to { unwholesome (s. 108) ... ..	„	—	—	—
be done in prem- { infected (s. 110) ... ..	„	—	—	—
ises which are				
Allowing wearing apparel to be made in premises infected by scarlet fever or small-pox (s. 109) ... ..	„	—	—	—
Other offences ... ..	„	—	—	—
Total ... ..	2	2	—	—

\*Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8, of the Factory Act as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

†Sec. 22 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, has not been adopted. Separate accommodation for the sexes is insisted on, and the standard enforced is a high one.

## 3. - OTHER MATTERS.

CLASS.	NUMBER.	
Matters notified to H.M. Inspectors of Factories :— Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Work- shop Act (s. 133) ... .. Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspectors as reme- diable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act (s. 5) { Notified by H.M. Inspectors ... Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors ... Other ... ..	Nil " " "	
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :— Certificates granted during the year ... .. In use at the end of the year ... ..	I I	
Number of		
Homework :—  <i>Lists of Outworkers</i> (s. 107) :—  Lists received ... ..	Lists.	Outworkers.
	3	120
Addresses of { forwarded to other Authorities ... outworkers { received from other Authorities ...	Nil "	
<i>Homework in unwholesome or infected premises</i> :—  Notices prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises (s. 108) ... .. Cases of infectious disease notified in homeworkers' premises ... .. Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises (s. 110) ... ..	Wearing Apparel.	Other.
	Nil	Nil
	"	"
	"	"
Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year ... .. Bakehouses ... .. Total number of workshops on Register ... ..	35 37 72	

## VITAL STATISTICS.

*Births.* During the year 1905 the number of Births registered in the Borough was 417, which is above the average for the previous ten years. Of these, 189 were males, and 228 females. In St. Mary's District, 66 males and 89 females were registered, making a total of 155; there were 17 illegitimate children born in this parish, 7 of these latter

in the Thingoe Union Workhouse, including 3 non-residents ; the total number of births in the Workhouse was 9. 262 Births took place in St. James' Parish, including 21 illegitimate ; of the total, 123 were males and 139 females. The number of illegitimate Births in the whole Borough was 38, considerably more than in 1904. The Birth-rate for 1905 works out at 25.04, that for the previous decade being 24.46.

*Deaths.* During the past year there have been 270 Deaths registered, 42 of these being those of strangers ; the average for the preceding decade stands at 289. 41 non-residents died in the Public Institutions, and one in St. James' Parish, leaving a nett number of Deaths belonging to the town of 228 ; the Death-rate for Bury St. Edmund's for 1905 thus becomes 13.72. 87 Deaths occurred in St Mary's District, and in St. James' 107, including 1 non-resident ; in the Thingoe Union Worhouse the total was 33, 18 being strangers ; 43 in the Suffolk General Hospital, 23 of which did not belong to the town.

*Infantile Mortality.* There were 29 deaths of children under one year, the average for the years 1895-1904 being 50. 11 of these occurred in St. Mary's Parish and 18 in St. James' ; Infant Deaths thus represent 10.7 % of the total at all ages, and the rate of Infantile Mortality stands at 69.71 per 1000 Births, the decennial average being 121.79. The steady improvement which has been taking place in these figures during the past few years is most encouraging.

The following Table, which is a new one required by the Local Government Board, seeing that the large number of Deaths of children under one year is a question of very serious moment for the nation, gives a very exhaustive analysis of the causes of, and ages at, Death during 1905, of Infants :—



INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1905.  
Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year  
of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
<i>All Causes.</i>																	
Certified ... ..																	
Uncertified ... ..	5	2	1	1	9	1	3	—	1	1	5	1	2	3	2	1	29
<i>Common Infectious Diseases.</i>																	
Small-pox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria: Croup ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Diarrhœal Diseases.</i>																	
Diarrhœa, all forms ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Enteritis (not Tuberculous)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis, Gastrointestinal Catarrh ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Wasting Diseases.</i>																	
Premature Birth ... ..	4	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Congenital Defects ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at Birth ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Want of Breast-milk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ... ..	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
<i>Tuberculous Diseases.</i>																	
Tuberculous Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Tuberculous Peritonitis:	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tabes Mesenterica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions ... ..	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Laryngitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	4
Suffocation, overlaying	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Other Causes ... ..	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3
	5	2	1	1	9	1	3	—	1	1	5	1	2	3	2	1	29

Population, estimated to middle of 1905, 16,610.  
Births in the year—legitimate, 379; illegitimate, 38.  
Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 228

*Deaths  
of Aged  
Persons.*

The number of deaths of persons over 65 was 109 ; in St. Mary's District there were 35, in St. James' 42, in the Thingoe Union Workhouse 24, and in the Suffolk General Hospital 8. The Senile Deaths represent 40.37 % of the total, whilst the Infantile and Senile taken together constitute 51.11 % of the whole. 51 of the Deaths of aged Persons were registered as due to Senile Decay, or Old Age. The figures dealing with Infantile and Senile Mortality are based on the total number of Deaths, including those of non-residents.

*Zymotic  
Diseases.*

There have been 6 Deaths reported under this heading as belonging to the Borough, giving a Zymotic Death-rate of .36 per 1000. There was also 2 Deaths of non-residents due to Zymotic Diseases. Measles has been responsible for 4 deaths, including one stranger in the Thingoe Union Workhouse ; one occurred in St. Mary's Parish and the other two in St. James'. Enteric Fever was answerable for one, in St. James' Parish, and Puerperal Septicæmia for three, one in St. James' Parish, and two in the Suffolk General Hospital, including one non-resident.

*Phthisis  
and  
Pulmonary  
Tubercu-  
losis.*

There have been 21 Deaths from Phthisis during the year 1905 ; 6 in St. Mary's Parish, 12 in St. James', and 3 in the Thingoe Union Workhouse. I hope shortly to submit to you a set of suggestions for the guidance of Consumptives, to enable them to avoid the risk of infecting their surroundings. This important work would be rendered much easier by compulsory notification of all cases of Tuberculosis.

*Other  
Tubercular  
Diseases.*

Under this heading 12 deaths have been registered, including 3 strangers. 4 were due to General Tuberculosis, 2 to Caries, 3 to Tabes Mesenterica, one to Tubercular Glands in the Throat, one to Tubercular Pneumonia, and one to Tubercular Meningitis. Of the total of 12, 4



occurred in the Suffolk General Hospital, three of these cases having been brought in from outside the town.

*Uncertified Deaths.* Three Deaths have been registered as uncertified by a Medical Practitioner, with regard to which Inquests have not been held. The causes of these were given as follows :—One due to fracture of the Thigh-bone, one to Heart Failure, and one to Syncope.

*Inquests.* Twelve inquests have been held during the past year, at which the juries gave verdicts as follows :—“ Accidental Death, resulting from a fall from a bicycle ” ; “ Accidental Death, due to over-laying and suffocation by parents while in bed ” ; “ Death, due to wounds self-inflicted ” ; “ Accidental Death, due to injuries resulting from a fall from a scaffold ” ; “ Suicide by drowning during temporary insanity ” ; Heart Failure ” ; “ Suicide by drowning, not sufficient evidence to show state of mind ” ; “ Death, due to injuries resulting from a fall down stairs ” ; “ Suicide by throwing himself on the line and being run over by a train while in a state of temporary insanity ” ; “ Accidental Death, the result of a horse falling on him while engaged in shunting ” ; and in two cases “ Death, due to natural causes.”

The following table, which includes non-residents, shows the ages at which the deaths have occurred in the various localities :—

AGES.	St. Mary's Parish.	Thingoe Union Workhouse	Suffolk General Hospital	Isolation Hospital	Small- Pox Hospital	St. James' Parish	Total
Deaths under 1 year	9	1	1	—	—	18	29
Over 1 & under 5 years	9	—	2	—	—	3	14
„ 5 „ 15 „	3	—	5	—	—	1	9
„ 15 „ 25 „	2	—	3	—	—	3	8
„ 25 „ 65 „	29	8	24	—	—	40	101
65 years and upwards	35	24	8	—	—	42	109
Total	87	33	43	—	—	107	270

The following table is a copy of that required to be forwarded to the Local Government Board, to the Town Clerk, and to the Clerk of the County Council :—

# CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1905.

CAUSES OF ALL DEATHS.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of " Residents " whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Death at all Ages.		Total Deaths whether of Residents or non " Residents " in Public Institutions in the district.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards	S. Mary's Parish.	S. James's Parish.	
Small-pox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	2	1
Scarlet fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping-cough... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and membranous croup ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Croup ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Fever.</i>										
Typhus ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Other continued ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Epidemic influenza ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Cholera ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Plague ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhœa ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Enteritis ... ..	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—
Puerperal fever ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	2
Erysipelas... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other septic diseases ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ... ..	21	—	—	—	2	18	1	9	12	3
Other tubercular diseases ... ..	9	4	1	1	—	3	—	6	3	4
Cancer, malignant disease ... ..	12	—	—	—	—	8	4	5	7	5
Bronchitis ... ..	7	2	1	1	—	1	2	4	3	—
Pneumonia ... ..	26	4	6	3	1	6	6	12	14	4
Pleurisy ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Other diseases of Respiratory organs ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Alcoholism Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	1
Venereal diseases... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature birth ... ..	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—
Diseases and accidents of parturition ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heart diseases ... ..	26	—	—	—	1	14	11	13	13	9
Accidents ... ..	4	1	—	—	—	2	1	2	2	3
Suicides ... ..	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	3	1
All other causes ... ..	100	10	3	—	3	21	63	50	50	43
All causes ... ..	228	28	14	5	7	84	90	110	118	76

## COMPARATIVE STATISTICS.

1895—1905.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number.	Rate.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.				Number.	Rate.
				Number.	Rate per 1000 Births Registered.	Number.	Rate.				
1895	16,881	426	25.23	84	190.01	376	22.27	55	25	351	20.79
1896	16,964	420	24.52	49	116.60	256	15.08	54	30	226	13.44
1897	17,019	434	25.26	54	124.00	271	15.90	43	25	246	14.40
1898	17,070	451	26.50			312	18.34	27	16	296	17.40
1899	17,250	412	23.88	45	109.20	305	17.68	66	28	277	16.05
1900	17,300	397	22.92	45	113.35	296	17.10	78	35	261	15.08
1901	16,250	396	24.36	41	103.53	247	15.20	58	25	220	13.53
1902	16,300	336	23.68	58	150.25	333	20.42	70	41	292	17.91
1903	16,360	408	24.93	38	93.13	240	14.66	67	31	209	12.77
1904	16,480	385	23.36	37	96.10	257	15.59	61	31	226	13.71
Averages for years 1895-1904	16,787	411	24.46	50	121.79	289	17.22	57	28	260	15.50
1905	16,610	417	25.04	29	69.71	270	16.77	76	41	228	13.72

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS.

1895—1905.

Year.	Whole District.				St. Mary's Parish.				St. James' Parish.				Public Institutions.			
	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	
1895	...	16,881	426	351	84	165	177	39	—	261	174	42	3	55	3	
1896	...	16,964	420	226	49	167	109	15	—	253	117	34	7	54	—	
1897	...	17,019	434	246	54	161	102	15	—	273	144	37	9	43	2	
1898	...	17,070	451	296	Statistics incomplete				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
1899	...	17,250	412	277	45	169	146	20	—	243	131	22	8	66	3	
1900	...	17,300	397	261	45	135	133	16	—	242	128	28	5	78	1	
1901	...	16,250	396	220	41	161	110	18	—	235	110	23	1	58	—	
1902	...	16,300	386	292	58	149	107	20	—	230	155	37	7	70	1	
1903	...	16,360	408	209	38	151	94	10	—	257	115	25	9	67	3	
1904	...	16,480	385	226	37	152	77	13	—	233	119	24	5	61	—	
Averages of Years 1895 to 1904.		16,787	411	260	50	156	117	18	—	247	132	30	6	57	1.5	
1905	..	16,610	417	228	29	155	87	11	—	262	107	18	9	76	2	



## ZYMOTIC DISEASES IN THE BOROUGH DURING 1905.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Cases Notified in whole Borough.							Cases No- tified in			Cases Re- moved to Hospital from		
	At all Ages.	Ages.						St. Mary's Parish.	St. James' Parish.	Public Institutions.	St. Mary's Parish.	St. James' Parish.	Public Institutions.
		under 1 year.	1 to 5 years.	5 to 15 years.	15 to 25 years.	25 to 65 years.	65 years & upwards.						
Small-Pox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	15	—	2	12	1	—	—	5	10	—	3	8	—
Membranous Croup ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	15	—	Not ascertained					8	6	1	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	6	—	1	5	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	1	—
Typhus Fever... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever... ..	5	—	—	1	1	3	—	2	3	—	—	—	—
Relapsing Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Plague ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ... ..	43	—	3	18	2	5	—	16	26	1	3	9	—



## SUMMARY.

The following Table contains an abstract of particulars taken from the Inspector's Books, and comprises a summary in brief of the practical Work of the year :—

## ABSTRACT OF CASES.

Entered in the Books of the Inspector for the year 1905.

Number of complaints received during the year	...	...	49
Number of houses and premises inspected	...	...	2030
RESULTS OF INSPECTION.			
Houses and premises repaired and whitewashed	...	...	42
Houses disinfected after infectious diseases	..	...	15
Number of articles of clothing and bedding disinfected at the disinfecting chamber	...	...	906
DEFECTIVE DRAINS, &C.			
House Drains, cesspools, &c., repaired, cleaned, trapped, and ventilated	...	...	43
New W.C.'s provided	..	...	8
Supplied with water	...	...	6
MANURE BINS, ASHPITS, &C.			
Removal of accumulations of manure, animal and other refuse	...	...	136
WATER SUPPLY.			
Number of cases in which water has been condemned	...	...	12
Fresh supply provided	...	...	16
Wells cleaned out	...	..	2
BAKE HOUSES.			
There are at present 37 Bake Houses in the Borough, which have been inspected at intervals during the year, and on the whole found clean and well kept	...	...	37
MEAT SUPPLY.			
No report as to unsound meat has reached me during the year, and I consider the Meat supply in general of excellent quality.			
MILK SUPPLY.			
Numbers of samples of Milk were taken from Milk sellers' carts and shops in various parts of the town, and submitted to the Public Analyst, and, with the exception of one, found of good quality. All the Milk Shops and Dairies have been inspected at intervals during the year, and found clean and well kept.			12
FISH SUPPLY.			
During the year there has been a good supply of fish.			

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Number of Lodging Houses registered under Clause 76 of the Public Health Act, 1875	...	...	...	...	...	2
Over-crowding reduced	...	...	...	...	...	2
Removal of animals improperly kept	...	...	...	...	...	6
Licensed Slaughter Houses inspected at intervals	...	...	...	...	...	16

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Number of samples taken during the year	...	...	...	...	...	25
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## FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS.

Factories in which forty or more persons are employed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Domestic Workshops have been inspected at intervals	...	...	...	...	...	25

Various cases of sickness, &c., brought under the notice of the Sanitary Authority, and steps taken to remove them to the Sanitary Hospital

Cases of Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	0
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	0
Scarlet Fever...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	11
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	0
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	0
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	0
Membranous Croup	...	...	...	...	...	0
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	0
Chicken Pox...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Legal proceedings	...	...	...	...	...	1

ROBERT KERRAGE,

Inspector of Nuisances for the Borough of Bury St. Edmund's.

## PATIENTS ADMITTED TO ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

## ST. MARY'S PARISH.

Date of Admission.	Sex.	Age.	Disease.	Class of Patient.	Result.	Date of Discharge.
1905.						
April 22	M.	5	Diphtheria	Pauper	Cured	May 13
Nov. 18	M.	6	Diphtheria	Private	Cured	December 9
Nov. 18	F.	5	Diphtheria	Private	Cured	December 9

Total ... .. 3

## PATIENTS ADMITTED TO ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

## ST. JAMES' PARISH.

Date of Admission.	Sex.	Age.	Disease.	Class of Patient.	Result.	Date of Discharge.
1905.						
April 11	M.	12	Scarlet Fever	Pauper	Cured	May 20
May 11	M.	18	Diphtheria	Pauper	Cured	" 13
Sept. 4	F.	5	Diphtheria	Pauper	Cured	September 18
" 13	F.	13	Diphtheria	Private	Cured	" 30
" 13	F.	12	Diphtheria	Private	Cured	" 30
" 20	M.	3	Diphtheria	Private	Cured	November 25
Oct. 15	M.	5	Diphtheria	Private	Cured	October 28
" 27	M.	3	Diphtheria	Pauper	Cured	November 11
Nov. 4	M.	10	Diphtheria	Pauper	Cured	" 18

Total ... .. 9

The total number of cases admitted to the Sanitary Hospital during 1905 was 12.

St. Mary's Parish	...	...	...	3	Diphtheria.
St. James' Parish	...	...	...	8	"
"	...	...	...	1	Scarlet Fever.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ERNEST STORK,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

*Bury St. Edmund's,*

*January, 1906.*